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Serial No. 10/594,529
Docket No. SH-0069PCTUS
RYU.034

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 18 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing apparatus of a porous glass base material for depositing glass particles produced by subjecting a material gas to flame hydrolysis, onto a starting member placed vertically,
wherein a plurality of gas inlets is provided in one or more lateral walls of a process chamber including a burner for the deposition therein, and
wherein two or more of the plurality of gas inlets are provided both in upper portions of the one or more lateral walls and along a ceiling of the process chamber.
2. (Currently Amended) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the two or more of the plurality of gas inlets [[is]] are provided in lateral walls that oppose each other with a porous glass base material being positioned therebetween.
3. (Original) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein slit-like gas inlets are provided in the process chamber, along left and right edges of a lateral wall on which the burner is provided.
4. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an exhaust outlet is provided in a lateral wall that opposes a lateral wall on which the burner is provided.
5. (Original) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein a width of the lateral wall in which the exhaust outlet is provided is smaller than a width of a lateral wall in which a gas inlet is provided.
6. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein one of the gas inlets is provided in a lateral wall in which an exhaust outlet is provided, and a distance between a lowest part of the gas inlet and a highest part of the exhaust outlet is 30

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mm or more.

7. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the ceiling and lateral walls of the process chamber along which a gas supplied from the gas inlets flows have flat surfaces.

8. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein an exhaust outlet is provided in a lateral wall that opposes a lateral wall on which the burner is provided.

9. (Original) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein an exhaust outlet is provided in a lateral wall that opposes the lateral wall on which the burner is provided.

10. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein one of the gas inlets is provided in a lateral wall in which an exhaust outlet is provided, and a distance between a lowest part of the gas inlet and a highest part of the exhaust outlet is 30 mm or more.

11. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein one of the gas inlets is provided in a lateral wall in which an exhaust outlet is provided, and a distance between a lowest part of the gas inlet and a highest part of the exhaust outlet is 30 mm or more.

12. (Original) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein one of the gas inlets is provided in the lateral wall in which the exhaust outlet is provided, and a distance between a lowest part of the gas inlet and a highest part of the exhaust outlet is 30 mm or more.

13. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the ceiling and lateral walls of the process chamber along which a gas supplied from the gas

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inlets flows have flat surfaces.

14. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the ceiling and lateral walls of the process chamber along which a gas supplied from the gas inlets flows have flat surfaces.

15. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the ceiling and lateral walls of the process chamber along which a gas supplied from the gas inlets flows have flat surfaces.

16. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the ceiling and lateral walls of the process chamber along which a gas supplied from the gas inlets flows have flat surfaces.

17. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the ceiling and lateral walls of the process chamber along which a gas supplied from the gas inlets flows have flat surfaces.

18. (Cancelled.)